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SCOTT C. BONE, Editor.

Ernest H. Merrick . . . Treasurer and Business Manager
Paul F. Cain . . . . . Assistant Treasurer
J. Harry Cunningham . . . . . Auditor
Charles C. Thompson . . . . Mechanical Superintendent

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1907.

Admiral Dewey on the Philippines.

Admiral Dewey's belief that the United States will never abandon the Philippines is doubtless shared by the great majority of the American people. However great the burden may now be or may yet become, we shall, in all human probability, continue to hold the islands and to govern their inhabitants as best we may. Our national altruism, the sentiment to which Secretary Taft has appealed, will support our Philippine policy, even if economic and military considerations should not appear to justify the retention of an Oriental colony.

Admiral Dewey lays much stress upon the strategic necessity of an Oriental outpost for naval and commercial purposes. For purposes of offensive warfare, the naval experts are all agreed on the importance of distant naval stations. With that view we shall not quarrel, although there are two sides even to that question. We observe, however, that Admiral Dewey holds to the theory that the Philippines are valuable as a base of commercial operations in Asia. This is the theory which was widely exploited when we bought the islands, and still obtains vogue. Whoever controls Manila, declared Senator Lodge, holds the key to Oriental commerce.

If Japan owned the Philippines, says Admiral Dewey, "she would command every gateway to the Orient, and the United States would be completely shut out." We see in this observation the medieval conception of commerce so commonly met with in the writings of Capt. Mahan. Buccaneers still infest the Spanish Main, and pirates abound in every sea. Tariffs yet exacts a tribute from ships that pass. The frowning guns of fortified ports terrorize the richly laden galleons of our merchants. Sea power is, therefore, essential to the promotion and protection of commerce.

But, in point of fact, our commerce with the Asiatic mainland is wholly independent of the Philippines. The great steamship lines sweep to the north of the archipelago. American goods are debarked in Japanese and Chinese ports, including the British port Hongkong, direct from Seattle and San Francisco. Yokohama, not Manila, is the great port of call for trans-Pacific shipping. Any one who looks at a map of the Asiatic coast and of the adjacent islands will see at once why this is so, and will see, furthermore, that, in the nature of things, it must always be so. The most important Chinese ports are far north of Manila. So is Japan, next to China, our principal Oriental customer. Manila is too far out of the main lines of trans-Pacific commerce to be available as a distributing point for American commerce with the mainland. It cannot, in the commercial sense, be a gateway, or a key, or a strategic point, or anything of that sort.

What, then, does Admiral Dewey mean by saying that, with the Philippines in her possession, Japan could shut us out from Oriental trade? Our commerce passes under the guns of Japanese war ships and fortresses every day without interference. Why should it not continue to do so, even though the Japanese owned a cordon of islands along the entire Asiatic coast? We judge the Admiral is really thinking of the whole matter in terms of naval warfare. He foresees the possibility that Japan may place such obstructions in the way of our commercial enterprise through her predominant influence in the far East that we may be compelled to fight for freedom of trade and the "open door." In that event, if the Philippines are a source of naval strength, they may prove of value in the protection and expansion of our Oriental commerce. But as an aid to the peaceful development of trans-Pacific trade with the Asiatic continent, their value is doubtful, to say the least. And, as yet, there is no gateway to Asiatic commerce that is not open to us equally with the Japanese or any other nation, nor do we possess any key to the Orient except the enterprise and efficiency of our merchants and manufacturers. As for the islands, there seems no valid reason why they should not become prosperous and profitable in themselves, and we have no doubt they will.

Judge Parker talks very much like a man in need of revaccination.

A Useful Royal Duke.

As a rule, the younger sons of royalty are of very little value in the make-up of things worth while these democratic days. They are ornamental; rarely useful.

Bavarian Duke Karl Theodore, however, is a most noteworthy exception to this rule and sets a fashion which, if followed, doubtless would do much toward rehabilitating royalty in the good graces of all people. This royal gentleman is one of the foremost oculists of Europe and has just celebrated the completion of his five thousandth successful operation of cataract. To his sanatorium come the poor of his land, and from them the duke accepts no fee. His royal allowance and a great part of his private income goes to keep this institution up to the very highest standard. He is a profound student and keeps abreast of the latest medical and surgical discoveries and investigations.

How much better the life work of this man than the average life of royal sons not directly in line of thrones. Early in his career Duke Karl determined to make himself genuinely useful to his people. He decided that he owed the people from whom the taxes came that supported his royal family something beside the occasional opening of a bazar or laying of a corner stone. So he became a surgeon—and a good one, too. He has relieved the pain and defective eyesight of a large section of his native land. He is recognized throughout all Europe as an authority in his profession, and, best of all, his people love him genuinely and generously.

Royalty the world over might well emulate Duke Karl of Bavaria.

Surely Senator "Bob" Taylor cherishes no ambition to become known to fame as second fiddler to Capt. Hobson and Auroraborealis Lewis?

The Face on the Coin.

Mr. Victor B. Boyer, Pennsylvania State councilor of the Independent Order of Americans—which sounds imposing enough, even though we never heard of it before—is exceedingly wroth because the new ten-dollar gold piece is to bear the profile likeness of the comely face of a native-born Irish girl, and not an American. "What!" ejaculates the imbittered Mr. Boyer; "are there no American girls worthy of this honor; are our women not beautiful enough?"

This chivalric champion should calm himself. There are hundreds, thousands, millions of American girls pretty enough, and to spare, for this honor; worthy and well qualified in every way. Indeed, we are not sure but that a great number of them are entirely too pretty to be thus advertised. Ten-dollar gold pieces are hard enough to get, as the matter stands, and the average thirst for the same is about as acute as mankind can stand. To add to the attractiveness of a ten-dollar gold piece, the beauty of a typical American maiden would make the scramble even more strenuous than it is now—and that is not especially to be desired.

Now, if a ten-dollar gold piece with an American girl's face upon it were any easier to get than one with an Irish girl's face upon it, we should take our stand, firmly and pugnaciously, beside the intrepid and knightly Mr. Boyer. We are very strong for the gold piece that is easy of capture and less elusive than the present output. In fact, we are not at all particular about whose face adorns the coin, provided it comes our way in sufficiently fat clusters, not to say battalions and brigades. What we want—voicing the average thought of Americans in general—is more ten-dollar gold pieces, regardless.

Then, too, we like the Irish—immensely. If it is a compliment to them to bedeck our gold pieces with the likeness of one of their colleens, we are glad of it. Unless we show them this courtesy, who will? Not England. At present the Irish are forced to put up at home with coins bearing the bewhiskered likeness of King Edward—a royal good fellow, all right, but not exactly anybody's prize-winning beauty. We do not know, on the whole, but that this entire business may prove to be a further cementing of the ties of friendship and good will now binding America and the Emerald Isle together.

Let Mr. Boyer cease troubling. Old Glory has not been insulted, nor has American beauty been snubbed. After all, the most important thing is to get the coin, no matter the nationality of the fair-faced one whose counterfeit likeness is stamped thereon.

Discovering the north pole isn't any more difficult, however, than discovering who ordered the cocktails.

State-owned Railroads.

Advocates of the government ownership of railroads have a notable recruit in Lord Brassey, who enjoys a well-earned reputation as an economist and publicist in all English-speaking countries. In an address before the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Lord Brassey declared that he was in favor of the state ownership of railroads, on the ground that there was a growing demand that the railroads be operated solely in the interests of the public, and not for the benefit of the shareholders. He thought there was hardly a doubt that Parliament would sanction a change of policy if it were seriously proposed.

Lord Brassey contrasted the continental system of government-owned roads with the private system of Great Britain, to the disadvantage of the latter. Where railroads were the property of the state, he said, "the requirements of the public were fully considered and the results to the treasury satisfactory, while in Great Britain competition was carried to excess, an immense amount of capital was wasted, shippers were dissatisfied with the burdensome rates, and the employes were discontented with their wages and hours of labor." The analogy of the British railway situation with our own will be at once noted, but many people will be surprised by Lord Brassey's confession that the English system is productive of results less satisfactory to both the public and the owners than government-operated roads.

We are seeking, in this country, to remedy complaints of high rates and overcapitalization by means of government regulation. Mr. Bryan and others are of the opinion that such regulation will ultimately lead to government ownership and operation of railroads. The prediction is by no means so fanciful as it may seem. To a very remarkable extent State railroad commissions are undertaking to regulate the actual physical operation of roads, and Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, has said that the commission will eventually take steps in the same direction. Railroad managers are already complaining that the discipline of their employes is being relaxed because of division of control between government and railroad authority. If State legislatures insist that passengers and freight be carried at unremunerative rates, there would seem to be no alternative to bankruptcy but government ownership, under which dividends would be subordinate to cheapened public service. Moreover, it may become a serious question whether private capital will invest in railroad enterprises under the limitations as to income fixed by public regulation. In that case the people would have to do without railroads or authorize their governments to build and operate them.

Government ownership is a long way off, if it ever comes in these United States; yet who can doubt the logic of Lord Brassey's proposition that if railroads must be operated solely in the interest of the public, they must be so operated by government? To encourage railroad building and insure efficient private management, we must permit the private owners of railroads to make secure and reasonable profit out of their investment—a condition compatible with reasonable rates of service and reasonable public regulation of railroads, and one which wholly avoids prospective government ownership, with its imposing problems and positive perils.

Following Emperor William's illustrious example, the King of Saxony was thrown from his horse a few days since. Not even Mr. Jacob Riis could carry loyalty and emulation further.

Former Senator Chandler has resigned a rather fat job under the government, and not for "something better." But, then, the Senator always was original.

Remedies for the Tramp Evil.

That the everlasting tramp problem should occupy the attention of railroad men and charitable organizations at a time when the cry the country over is for more workers is one of the anomalies of our economic life. Mr. Powderly tells us that a million men can find employment in the United States, yet the army of tramps is so numerous that railroad managers are making especial efforts to protect their properties from depredation by vagrants, and a national vagrancy committee has been formed to deal with the problem on its humanitarian side. Some striking facts have been adduced to show the importance of the tramp evil to the railroads. Thousands of tramps are killed annually on American transportation lines. During the five years ending with 1905 nearly 24,000 trespassers were killed, or more than the number of trainmen and passengers killed in the same period. Of these 24,000 trespassers it is estimated that one-half to three-fourths were tramps. The Pennsylvania Railroad figures that tramps occasion a loss to American railroads of at least $25,000,000 annually.

Little progress has been made by local authorities in dealing with the tramp nuisance. The correctional measures taken are as often as not a direct encouragement of the evil they are designed to prevent. Jails and lockups are a place of refuge for the hobo. One county penitentiary was described by Orlando F. Lewis, in an address at the recent meeting of the National Prison Association, as a "winter vacation resort for tramps." As few local jails provide work for their inmates, the short sentences imposed on vagrants have no terrors. Municipal lodging houses and soup kitchens, the leniency of the police, and the benevolence of the householder all contribute to the ease by which the wanderer may live without work. Mr. Lewis finds that our present correctional methods "err in not being sufficiently repressive to the vagrant by intention," while they are "not sufficiently helpful to the occasional vagrant, or to the honest wayfarer seeking work." He suggests the following remedial proposals:

"Able-bodied vagrants must work or be imprisoned at hard labor. The sentences of vagrants should be cumulative. Towns lodging vagrants should provide for them a separate house, or, if they are lodged at the almshouse, separate and distinct quarters. Vagrants should not be lodged in police stations or town lock-ups. A municipal lodging-house should be established in all cities having a vagrancy problem. Vagrants trespassing on railroads should be arrested and imprisoned at hard labor. Greater co-operation is necessary between towns and railroads in prosecuting vagrants. The costs of the prosecution and maintenance of vagrants should be made a State charge. At least one compulsory labor colony for habitual vagrants, with indeterminate sentence, should be established in each State. In each community there should be the chance for the vagrant to earn by a work-test his temporary care in lodging and meals."

The essential feature of all these is that the vagrant must be compelled to work. Nothing should be free to him. If he will not work, then let him starve. A Spartan remedy, some may think, but the only effective one. Nor would there be any real hardship in it if work were provided in labor colonies, as Mr. Lewis thinks should be done. Compulsory labor is something rather abhorrent to American individualism, but surely it would be better than the encouragement of hordes of tramps to wander up and down the countryside, trespassing on railroads and other property, becoming charges on jails and workhouses, and threatening unprotected women. And if to the provision of hard labor for habitual vagrants there should be added a general determination on the part of individuals not to assist any obvious hobo, the army of tramps would undoubtedly show a considerable diminution.

The New York World thinks that Mr. Nicholas Longworth may succeed Senator Foraker. It isn't at all probable that Ohio thinks any such thing, however.

Sending Mr. Wu Ting-fang back to this country as Chinese Ambassador would be more or less of a questionable transaction.

Prince Borghe is being urged by the Italian government to run for mayor of Rome, from which we infer that the Eternal City needs detomjohnsonizing.

It would be no friendly act on the part of Emperor William to send us so unspeakable a gentleman as Herr von Tschirschky-Bogendorff as successor to Baron von Sternburg?

"The esteemed Washington Herald credits the line 'I saw eternity the other night' to a Chicago reporter. But didn't Henry Vaughn see it first?" politely inquires the Milwaukee Sentinel. Oh, well, as to that, our guess would be that Abel saw it first.

Gov. Yon Yonson hasn't declared against the third-term theory—so far as the governorship of Minnesota is concerned.

Washington's baseball team is the only home institution we know of that behaves as if it had been reared in Houston, Tex.

An Illinois man wants to abolish the Constitution of the United States. A number of people think it is being done now—by degrees.

That Cambridge professor who proposes to cure all people of the prevarication habit will be viewed by the average politician as a dangerous revolutionist.

Muldoon, the mender, appears to have operated upon Secretary Root with entire success. Bully for Muldoon!

An umpire was killed by an exploding bottle of soda pop recently. Anti-prohibitionists will not fail to make note of this new soda-pop peril.

There comes persistent rumors of dissensions among the Hoke Smithites down in Jawjaw. Doubtless the pie supply is not adequate to the demand.

Mr. Watterson designates a certain obstreperous individual as "a liar, a he-goat, and a polecat in the bargain." "Marse Henry" is coming dangerously near to nature-faking.

"Bob" Fitzsimmons will never look natural in marble unless the sculptor can manage somehow to sculp in the freckles.

A self-made cocktail is a dangerous thing.

"Who has the money?" asks the Deseret News. John D. Rockefeller appears to have the greater part of it.

The Hughes boom is moving along nicely. They are now calling him "Charlie."

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's marriage, in point of mystery, seems to have been quite in keeping with his stock in trade.

Summer went out with a simmer.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

A BRIEF CORRESPONDENCE.

Once a damsel yclept Meg,
On a farm,
Wrote her name upon an egg;
Meant no harm.
"Maybe 'twill be seen," quoth she,
"Far away.
Some nice man may write to me
Any day."

Two years later, to a dot,
Came a screed;
And its tone was rather hot—
Warm, indeed.
It was from an actor's fin,
By the by,
Seems the egg had landed in
His off eye.

Fall.

The fields are wet, the leaves are brown;
It's time to get the goosebone down.

A Poet's Fuel.

To purchase coal he has no tin, yet
doth no wry face pull. He knows the
good old poetry bin is more than heaping
full.

At the Theater.

They hide away; we breast the crush.
I think an usher ought to ush.

Our Poetic Edition.

Some people climb away from rhyme, yet
rhyme would do them good.
A little verse is not so worse; it purifies
the blood.
Poetic pills will cure your ills and chase
away your woes;
Yet, lest you shirk, we've gone to work
and fixed them up as prose.

Back to the Truth.

I used to know a girl named Mabelle;
she thought that was a lovely label. But
since the new pure food laws came she's
going 'round again as Mame.

Wouldn't Think of It.

They say that guides are scarce this year on all the mountain sides. But what care we? It would be queer to go out after guides.

The Trial Marriage.

It will not work in real life, for, goodness knows, no man would buy a trial wife expensive clothes.

BREAKFAST TABLE CHAT.

From the Detroit Free Press.

INDIAN SUMMER.

I.

Indian summer days are nearing, days
of burnished red and gold,
When the mists of morning, clearing,
wondrous beauties will unfold.
Days when fields of corn will glisten,
like the curls on baby's head,
When to songs of joy we'll listen, for
the crops are harvested.
Changing seasons bring their treasures,
but the Indian summer seems
Fraught with more delightful pleasures,
days of joy and days of dreams.

II.

In the night time, while we slumber,
nature's jeweler has made
Rarest gems of countless number for
the humblest wisp or blade;
Coronets of crystal shining, necklaces of
jewels rare,
Richer far than gems we're mining, for
the royal bride to wear.
Indian summer days are nearing, gorgeous Indian summer days,
When the mists of morning, clearing, all
the earth will seem ablaze.

III.

Trees to red and gold are turning, soon
the leaves will slowly fall,
Over earth the fires are burning, waiting for the final call;
Like the sounding and the clashing, ere
the curtain slow descends,
Like the crashing and the dashing, ere
at last the opera ends.
So, it seems, is nature ending in a flourish her display,
All her brilliant colors blending, ere she
goes upon her way.

So It Seems.

"Do you think they will ever discover the north pole?"

"Surely. But not until there ceases to be good money in lecturing about it."

The Furnace.

There is one feature about the furnace
that appeals to all men. It doesn't have
to be put up every year, anyhow.

True.

Eight tons of coal we always think,
Should surely last the winter through;
And yet somehow we often find
That though they should they never do.

Would Accept No Substitute.

"I would like to marry your pretty daughter," said the young man, quietly, to her father.

"I can't let you have the pretty one," replied the old man, "but you can have the homely one, and I'll guarantee you that she's just as good."

But the young man had read the warning, "accept no substitute," and the "just as good" line of talk was wasted upon him.

Wall Street View of the Fine.

From the Wall Street Journal.

Judge Landis fined the Standard Oil Company $29,000,000. The fine was so immense, so vastly in excess of the entire capital of the company, that its effect has been to disturb confidence in securities rather than to destroy confidence in a hated and devouring trust. Since the fine of $29,000,000 was imposed the prices of railroad and industrial stocks have declined nearly $800,000,000. If the impairment to confidence should continue, it may turn out that in fining the Standard Oil Company $29,000,000, Judge Landis really fined the country $2,900,000,000.

Indifference to Home Rule.

From the Minneapolis Journal.

Minneapolis and Chicago are two great cities which yesterday put themselves on record against home rule. In neither city is it clear what caused the slump away from their own best interests, but one general cause, indifference, is evident in both. Chicago, with a registration of 360,000 made for this election, cast about half that number, and about one-third of the total possible vote of the city. Minneapolis, with a vote of 42,000 a year ago, turned out only 15,000 electors yesterday.

Suspicious.

From the New York Sun.

So the excellent Mr. Taft was only a ballon d'assai after all! It is inconceivable that the gentleman who launched him should be dissatisfied with the results of his unselfish experiment.

Tales from the Timber.

From the Ohio State Journal.

Maybe opportunity will knock at Dr. Long's door when Dr. Roosevelt returns from the Louisiana canebrake district and begins to tell about what he saw there.

On Its Death Bed?

From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Ante-mortem statements made in the fear of death are entitled to the highest credence, and the dying declarations of the Standard Oil Company are profoundly impressive.

Some Vitality Left.

From the Indianapolis News.

Anyway, the Oklahoma election shows that the Democratic party is alive in spots.

MEN AND THINGS.

Watson and His Ambitions.

People who know "Jim" Watson, the Indiana Congressman, realize that his decision to leave the House in order to become a candidate for governor of his State must have cost him many a pang of regret, for Watson enjoyed being a member of Congress. There can be no doubt of that. Indeed, it is impossible to recall just now any of his colleagues who gloried as much in this position of Federal lawmaker which means so much backbone where the votes come from, and, usually, so little here in Washington. To the young Indianan Congress was—or is, let us say, since he is still a member and presumably will continue to be during the coming session—a very serious matter. He is not a statesman—just a magnetic talker and a clever politician—but he has always taken his politics seriously, and has always been discreet and industrious in the extreme. To these circumstances, rather than to any unusual ability, are due his rise in the House to the more or less important position of majority whip and to membership on the Ways and Means Committee, which body, although supposed to be at the top of the list in the matter of power and importance, is really second to Appropriations in sessions when no tariff or revenue bills of moment are up for consideration.

"Uncle Joe" discovered that Watson could keep his mouth shut as well as talk; that he was a hard worker, and, moreover, that he was shrewd and what probably would be termed "smart" in the Middle West. Hence the young Indianian's promotions, which gave him a position that he naturally is reluctant to part with, even for what appears to be a good chance of being governor.

Opinion is divided as to Representative Watson's future were he to remain in Congress. It is quite reasonable to assume that that monumental statesman, the Hon. Joseph G. Cannon, will continue to succeed himself as long as he lives and remains a member of the House and the Republicans maintain a majority. But even with "Uncle Joe" eliminated, it is by no means certain that the orator from Indiana could be elected Speaker; so, everything considered, a considerable number of his friends and acquaintances here at the Capital think he has acted wisely in announcing himself for the gubernatorial office, especially as his prospects seem particularly bright.

What Carnegie Has Done.

Mrs. William Moose, wife of a farmer, living near Springfield, Mass., has just returned from a visit of several months to her birthplace, Dunfermline, Scotland. Dunfermline is also the native place of Andrew Carnegie, and Mrs. Moose has returned to America filled with admiration for her countryman, the steel millionaire. She says that Mr. Carnegie has by no means neglected his little native town of Dunfermline in his benefices. He has bought a beautiful glen adjacent to the town and made of it a summer resort so attractive that hundreds spend their outings there. He has furnished houses for many friends who aided him when he was a poor boy in Scotland. And, besides, he has presented Dunfermline with a handsome library, public baths, and many other public buildings. He hardly ever visits the place now.

Civilization in Kentucky.

Civilization is climbing the Kentucky mountains. Jackson, the county seat of "Bloody Breathitt," known as "the City of Sudden Death," is treating itself to electric lights. Under the Hargis-Callahan domination there were no street lights at all. It was often necessary to wait for broad daylight to get a bead on a marked man. As the Louisville Courier-Journal remarks, "Of course, there were moonlight nights when a man might be hit if a shotgun could be conveniently secured; but moonlight half-revealing, half-concealing the target is misleading, and there is always the danger of mistaken identity and filling an old and tried friend with your buckshot. The electric lights will not now be needed for the purpose they might have served. They will burn long and brightly, illuminating the streets of a peaceful town; and it is improbable that they will even be shot out on Saturday nights by the boys from Quicksand and Frozen Creek, so quiet and orderly has the Breathitt capital grown."

Facts About Illiteracy.

It is strange but true that we have a larger proportion of illiterates in this country than most European countries. Of all the recruits in the German army in 1903, only one in each 2,500 was illiterate. In Sweden and Norway it was one in 1,250; in Denmark, one in 500; in Switzerland, one in 166; in Holland, one in 40; in France, one in 16. In 1902 in England, one man in forty, and one woman in forty were unable to write their names when they were married. About four-fifths of the American illiterates were born among the most unfavored people of the Old World. But that fact must not blind us to the other fact that we have too many illiterates born in this country. In New York State in 1900 there were 29,188 illiterates of foreign birth and 18,612 of native birth. The percentage of illiterates who are American-born is much larger in the country than in the cities. Indeed, there are few in any rural counties which show so small a percentage of native illiterates as the larger cities show. The city and county of New York has a smaller percentage of illiterates who are the children of foreign-born parents than any other county in the State of New York.

She Found Out.

A woman who was formerly a kindergarten teacher, but who is now connected with a hospital in West Philadelphia, tells the following experience she had with one of the youngsters while she was teaching them: "The rules of the school required that when a child reports a case of illness in the family the teacher shall find out what is the matter, whether the illness is contagious or not, and it is usually necessary to send the pupil home for a statement of the facts. One of my charges was a small boy of whom I was very fond because of his unusual intelligence for so young a pupil. One morning I did not see him in his seat and I asked the other children if they knew where he was. They told me that his mother was ill. Later the boy came to school and reported that his mamma was sick, but that it was not catching. 'That won't do,' I said. 'You must go home and find out and tell me just what is the matter with your mamma.' Pretty soon the little lad came back. 'Teacher,' he said, 'mamma says it's a boy.'"

Still Opportunity for Invention.

From the Portland Oregonian.

Notwithstanding the great advances that have been made in the industrial world in the last half century as the result of inventions, the field for the man of inventive genius is still unlimited. From a $6,000,000 turbine steamer to the most ordinary household utensils, the subjects for improvements are numberless. The mechanic arts offer an inviting field for the young man who is perplexed over the course of study he should pursue.

A TWR.

Mr. Wr. wooed Miss Phr.
And he kr.
When Miss Phr. left, then Wr.
Kr. sr.

Then Miss Phr.'s haughty sr.
Slapped bold Wr.—
Mr. Wr.'s cheek now wears a
Painful blr.

—Chicago Post.

PAPAL MARRIAGE DECREE.

Its Significance Pointed Out by a Catholic Organ.

From the Tablet.

The chief point to be borne in mind is that after Easter next any marriage between Catholics is absolutely null and void, no real marriage at all, unless it is celebrated in the presence of a duly qualified priest and two witnesses. The same is true of any marriage in which either of the parties is or has been a Catholic. Up to this time when a Catholic in these countries, in defiance of the law of the church, has so far forgotten himself as to be married either in a Protestant church or in a registry office, the church held the marriage to be sinful and sacrilegious and the parties guilty of grievous sin, but at the same time recognized the marriage so far to be valid and binding and the parties to be truly man and wife. After Easter next such marriages in Protestant churches or registry offices will be for Catholics not only sinful, but invalid, and the persons who contract them will have merely gone through an empty ceremony and will be no more man and wife after it than they were before. Catholics, therefore, who for any reason or pressure of circumstances might be tempted into such an iniquitous course must be duly forewarned of their danger. Be it observed that this law binds all Catholics, even apostate or excommunicated Catholics. But on the other hand it does not affect those who are not and never have been Catholics. Consequently Protestants and non-Catholics generally are outside its scope, and the marriages of such in their churches or conventicles or registry offices are recognized by the Catholic Church, all things else permitting, as real and true marriages.

GRAFT BY THE CUBIC FOOT.

Method by Which Pennsylvania's Capitol Was Looted of Millions.

Owen Wister, in Everbody's.

In several rooms of the capitol at Harrisburg is a type of mahogany office table 8 feet long, 4 wide, 2½ high. The cost of each table to Sanderson, the contractor, was $40. He charged the State $1,472, a commission of 3,580 per cent. Still more remarkable are two rostrums, for which $2,000 were paid the builder, and for which the State paid Sanderson $90,748.80, a commission of 4,305 per cent.

It appears that all this furniture, and much more, was bought by Sanderson by the piece, but was sold to the State "by the foot" at $18.40 a foot. If we now take the dimensions of the mahogany table, which originally cost $40, and compute its feet by multiplying its length by its width, and the result by its height thus: 4 times 8 is 32; 2½ times 32 is 80, and then multiply $18.40 by 80, we reach the sum of $1,472, or the price of 80 cubic feet of table paid by Pennsylvania to Sanderson. This gentleman by similar multiplication found that there were 88 feet of blacking stand—and so reached the price of $1,619.20 for that article.

The rostrums were dealt with in the same cubical way, as were the hundreds and thousands of other objects that you will find distributed through the five stories of the enormous building. We Pennsylvania taxpayers have paid for I don't know how many thousands of feet of clocks, of umbrella tubs, of clothes trees, and of filing cases.

SQUEEZING THE PRESS.

Paper Trust an Object Lesson on Need of Tariff Revision.

From the New York World.

We observe that the free pulp and paper resolution was voted for by the publishers regardless of their party affiliations. Ground between the trust and the Dingley schedules, even the most uncompromising Republican lost some of his reverence for a stand-pat policy.

The newspaper publishers are not protected, but they are compelled to pay for the protection of the corporations that are squeezing them. In that respect they are like millions of other consumers. In another respect they are on a much more favorable footing, because they are organized and wield an influence immeasurably beyond the reach of the average consumer.

They can make it so hot for every stand-pat Republican Congressman that his political life will not be worth living. That is what they should do. In fighting their own battle against tariff extortion the publishers will be fighting the battle of a whole army of American consumers staggering under a burden of artificial prices maintained by the Dingley schedule.

Newspapers and the Tariff.

From the Kansas City Times.

If there is real efficiency in the traditional "power of the press," results should follow the resolution of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association calling for an investigation of the paper trust and asking for the immediate removal of the tariff on print paper and wood pulp. Newspapers are not agreed on the subject of the tariff, but they do know that newspaper stock has increased in cost through trust control as well as through the growing scarcity of raw material. They also know that the removal of the tariff would have a tendency to lower prices, and at the same time might lessen, to a large extent, the destruction of American forests by the pulp industries—forests that should be saved for their permanent value to the watersheds in which they lie.

Americans on Motor Tours.

From a Consular Report.

It is estimated that there are now in Europe 8,000 American touring parties in automobiles, concerning which, it is said: Each car carries on an average five persons, making a total of 40,000 Americans motoring on the continent. The expense will average $10 per day for each person, making a daily expenditure by this class of American travelers in Europe of $400,000. The American motorist usually spends two months on the continent, which brings the aggregate expenditure up to $24,000,000 for the season.

Saving Alaskan Forests.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The forest reserve just created by the President in Southeastern Alaska embraces 2,006,000 acres, or almost enough to make two States as large as Delaware or Rhode Island. This Tongass national forest, as it is called, is composed of rough land, but its islands and mainland are well covered with trees.

Science of Grafting.

From the New York Post.

The results of grafting are illustrated to-day by Mr. Burbank's tree which produced seventy-three different varieties of apples. Also by fourteen indictments of men connected with the building of the Pennsylvania capitol.

Issues Boiled Down.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

If conditions increase in strenuosity, next year's contest for the Presidential nomination may be boiled down to the simple question whether the aspirant is a trust buster or a trust booster.

Dry and Democratic.

From the Kansas City Times.

Oklahoma is the first State to come into the Union "dry." And to make its entrance still more unique, it came in both "dry" and Democratic.

Safe, So Far.

From the Baltimore Sun.

So far, there is nothing to indicate that Taft has turned turtle.

AT THE HOTELS.

"The masses of the people in West Virginia are for Roosevelt, first, last, and always," said Representative James Anthony Hughes, of the Fifth district, and hailing from Huntington, at the Riggs. Mr. Hughes is in Washington for the purpose of placing his two daughters in school, and will return home to-morrow, stopping en route at the Jamestown Exposition.

"In my opinion, the West Virginia delegation will be instructed to vote for President Roosevelt at the next Republican convention, regardless of what he has said about a third term, or what he will say. They seem to think that he is the friend of the poorer people, and their faith in him remains unshaken. They are like the devoted adherents of all of his policies—they know no distinction; and I am certain that only an almost inconceivable blunder on the part of the President will cause them to turn against him. His attack on corporations and railroads has also made him many friends among the smaller business men, who believe that his policy will be to their great benefit.

"Although I cannot see now just what chance a second choice will have in West Virginia; I believe that Mr. Fairbanks is the strongest man now, with the President eliminated. There is no doubt that the larger business men of the State are favorable to him, and that they will use their efforts to secure his nomination. With Roosevelt eliminated, I do not know who the people would turn to, but I think that they will stick to him until the time of the convention.

"The gubernatorial campaign in the State is something in the nature of a preliminary canter just now, with several of the candidates feeling their way along. It is too early just yet for me to make any predictions as to the result of the contest.

"I do not think Mr. Bryan will be the Democratic Presidential candidate of West Virginia. He seems to have lost his grip in my State, and the majority of the people are in favor of Judge Gray, of Delaware. This is probably accounted for by the fact that he was a member of the anthracite coal arbitration board and that this opinion met with great approval from the West Virginia miners. Our State has many miners now, as coal is our chief industry, and these men will likely have their way when the Democrats are sent to the convention. Occasionally one hears the name of Judson Harmon, of Cincinnati, but not often enough to make him a possibility. Of the other aspirants for the nomination, none is at all formidable. Chanler has not yet been heard of. It looks to me as though Gray will be the favorite of the Democrats, with Bryan a second choice."

"When wonderful growth of a country in population and riches is spoken of, the Transvaal should not be forgotten," said Elmer Tong, of Milwaukee, last night, at the Raleigh. Mr. Tong is a mining engineer, and has taken a great interest in the mines of South Africa.

"Not more than twenty-five years ago the Transvaal was the poorest country in the world. It was not only at the minimum of poverty, but it was deeply in debt. Now it is producing gold at the rate of $120,000,000 a year, besides its other resources, which, though few, will swell the total considerably. In the same time, the population has grown proportionately, and the number of people in that country now is about 300,000.

"Almost half of this population is located in the vicinity of the mines, while the other part of the country is given over to farming. There you have the spectacle of one portion of a country thickly congested, while the other is filled with broad plains and farms. There are 100,000 natives employed in the mines of Witwatersrand, and about half as many Chinese. All of these and many thousands more are supported directly or indirectly by the mining industry, and their numbers have increased as the mining industry has progressed.

"When the mines were first worked, only the very best sort of ore was produced and treated, but at present the average price obtained for ore is only about $8 a ton. It will give some idea of the fine business sense of the mine managers when it is considered that $10,000,000 worth of ore is mined each month, and that in a country where living expenses are twice as high as those of the United States.

"Almost all of the skilled labor in that country is performed by whites, while all of the unskilled labor is done by the Chinese."

"Washingtonians would be much prouder of Mount Vernon if they could all see the reverence with which relics of Washington are held in other parts of the country where they are but few," said N. T. Buhler, of Philadelphia, last night at the Metropolitan Hotel.

"Up in Lancaster County, Pa., in the old Elizabeth Farms mansion, a relic of Washington is preserved with the greatest care, as is the whole house in which the relic stands. It is an old bed in which the great patriot slept after the battle of Germantown, and its high posts and curtains are just as they were in his time. The same quaint old papering is on the wall and the old-fashioned rag carpet on the floors. Other relics preserved are the old wood stove, one bearing the date 1777; several ancient planos, and many other things that went to make the house complete long ago."

"The Boston public schools have undergone a rather pronounced change in their methods," said Charles Rogers, of that city, at the Metropolitan Hotel last night.

"English has been made the principal study of the course, and the other studies are built around that major subject. Arithmetic has been simplified and made much more practical. In geography, particular stress is laid on the human life, commerce, and industry, while commercial geography and history are made co-ordinate with that study. But the most important change has been made in the course of physical training, which has been almost revolutionized. Doctors and nurses have been added to the faculties, and corps of teachers make it their duty to keep the children in health. No expense has been spared in equipment of the schools, so that it will be possible for the children to get all the exercise they need in good or bad weather. I think other cities will follow Boston's lead, and adopt the same sort of a curriculum after they see how finely it works out."

"One strong tie that binds the people of the West to President Roosevelt and his administration is the interest that he has taken on the general subject of a great waterway from the Great Lakes to the Gulf," said Phillip Harkins, of Chicago, at the Shoreham last night.

"He has given much encouragement to the promoters of that great scheme by his promise to attend the convention, which will be held in Memphis on October 4. The gathering will be a large one, and will express the sentiment of the entire West on this project. Of course, the mission of the convention is to secure appropriations, and this can only be done by making Congress see that the Western States want a deep waterway and want it finished before the Panama Canal, so that they, as well as the rest of the country, will derive some benefit. Chicago wants to be connected with the Gulf of Mexico, and although the project in itself is not new, there is a lot of new enthusiasm, and this convention will make a great effort to obtain its desire.

"Then the river towns along the Mississippi want to regain the business that was once theirs, but which now has been thrown to the railroads.

"The people desire the benefit of cheaper rates. There has been a great lack of transportation facilities, a relief is needed, and the people look to the President to recommend such a relief. Indeed, the Western people believe that a deep waterway is the crying need of the hour, and they will make a last great effort for it."